Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Traumatic brain injury is a serious, national public health epidemic that results in a life-altering experience that can include the most serious physical, cognitive, and emotional impairments; and,

Whereas, Each year 1.7 million Americans sustain a traumatic brain injury; and,

Whereas, A traumatic brain injury is a contributing factor to a third of all injury-related deaths in the United States. Injuries are largely the result of motor vehicle crashes, falls, assaults, sports related injuries, or occupational injuries; and,

Whereas, Traumatic brain injury was the signature injury of the war in Iraq and in Afghanistan, presenting new challenges for members of the military and their families; and,

Whereas, Early, equal, and adequate access to care will greatly increase overall quality of life and will enable individuals to return to home, school, work, and community; and,

Whereas, The lack of public awareness is so vast that traumatic brain injury is known in the disability community as the nation's "silent epidemic"; and,

Whereas, March has been designated as Brian Injury Awareness Month to promote public awareness of the extent, causes, consequences, treatment, and prevention of traumatic brain injury:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim March 2015 as

BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Seventeenth Day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Fifteen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Teresa J Gray, Deputy Secretary

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State